



Advent Day 10 (written by Deb Bakken)

## Burning Bush

Exodus 3:6-8a, 12

Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God. The LORD said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good

and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey" ...And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain." (NIV 1984)

Wildfires are a frightening danger of our time. In dry climates, one little spark can ignite a tree. The fire can spread from tree to tree, from forest to forest, for many miles. Everything in its way gets burned up. But when the fire is past, everything that had been there is gone. All that is left is charred rubble.

One lone bush in the middle of a barren desert would not start a raging wildfire. But it, too, would burn up. Unless, of course, it was a special bush that God prepared, a bush that kept on burning and burning and never burnt up. You can imagine how a bush like that would attract a person's attention. And when a voice from inside it spoke, a person would surely listen.

God had a special promise to share with Moses. The promise was that God would rescue his people and bring them to this very place to worship him. It seemed impossible, but. . . a bush that never burned up seemed impossible, too!

Today we do not hear God's promises from a burning bush. We read them in the Bible. We are often tempted not to believe God's Word, because

some things seem impossible. When we doubt, the Holy Spirit strengthens our faith from that very same Bible. With God, all things are possible.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, help us to listen to your Word the way Moses listened to the bush. Amen.